

VOUCHER MYSTERY IS NOT CLEARED UP

Knox Resents Intima- tion That It Was "Doctored."

ITS DISCOVERY
VERY "PECULIAR"

**Disbursing Officer Will Be Asked
to Explain How Famous and
Long-Looked-For Paper Hap-
pened to Be Among Crum-
pled Envelopes Near
Waste Basket.**

Washington, D. C., June 14.—Intima-
tion of "doctoring" the now famous
Day portrait voucher, a consequent
lively colloquy between Secretary Knox

of Disbursing Officer Morrison's van messenger that he found the voucher on the floor, near Morrison's desk, after the archive had been ineffectually ransacked, featured to-day's State Department investigation. Correspondence between Secretary Knox and Consul General Michael, at Calcutta, indicated that the mysterious differences between the amount of the voucher and the actual amount paid to the shipowner's accountant was applied to emergency accounts, probably Chinese matters, according to Mr. Michael. The exchange between Mr. Knox and Mr. Hamilton blew over quickly. Mr. Morrison probably will be recalled to explain how the voucher happened to be among the "crumpled envelopes" near his wastebasket at the close of the day's work long after the search for the document had been on.

The mystery surrounding the sudden discovery of the portrait voucher was not cleared up when Secretary Knox appeared before the committee in response to the committee's subpoena, issued yesterday. Secretary Knox explained, apparently to the satisfaction of the committee, the payment of \$5,000 to Frederick Hale, son of former Senator Eugene Hale, of Maine, for services in connection with Canadian boundary negotiations. Mr. Knox produced the sections of the treaty of 1908, which authorized negotiations with Canada to establish the line through Passamaquoddy Bay. Mr. Hale was employed for this work, performed to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State. Mr. Knox also approved his bill of \$5,000 a few days after coming into control of the State Department.

Gives No New Facts.
As to the voucher signed by Albert Rosenthal, the portrait painter, calling for \$2,450, of which sum Rosenthal got but \$350, Mr. Knox could give no new facts. He only knew that he had started a search for it as soon as he heard about the case and that the search failed to reveal any trace of the voucher or letters that were

A week ago, said Mr. Knox, Mr. Carr, chief of the Consular Bureau brought the vouchers and papers to him, saying that they had been found on the floor of Disbursing Clerk Morrison's office.

"I did," said Secretary Knox, "and could learn nothing. All I know about the whole case is embodied in this

"You will be interested in another receipt from Mr. Rosenthal that is attached to the papers," he said.

committee. "It was signed January 18, 1964, and is for \$790, with a notation that \$60 for the frame of Secretary Day's picture had been paid to a Washington picture dealer."

The members of the committee, upon examination found that it was not

Believes Something Wrong.

Mr. Hamlin declared he believed there was something wrong about the receipt. He intimated that he believed it had been fixed up, at least as to the explanation written in ink across the bottom, after the present

"There is no intention to reflect on you personally, Mr. Secretary," returned

"Then you think that Mr. Rosenthal has written at least part of this receipt since the time indicated in it?"

Mr. Hamlin replied that he thought it was a curious receipt, and that he intended to probe the circumstances to the bottom.

"I will welcome such an investiga-

tion," said Secretary Knox, "and if you can corroborate your theory and can show that any one in the State Department was cognizant of such an act, there will be some vacancies in the department."

Disbursing Clerk Morrison's office, who found the envelope containing the voucher on the floor of the disbursing office after the whole department had been ransacked for it, was then put on the stand.

He said he found the envelope among a lot of crumpled ones by Mr. Morrison's waste basket, about four and a half feet from the latter's desk.

Sangston said he had not put the